

Table 18-1 Percentage of students who used a computer at home, by purpose, current grade level, race-ethnicity, and family income: 1997

Current grade level, race-ethnicity, and family income*	Word processing	E-mail	Internet	School assignments	Databases	Graphics/design
Total (Grades 1-12)	33.9	13.0	17.5	49.1	1.6	14.7
Grades 1-6						
Total	19.8	6.8	10.2	34.0	0.0	12.0
Race-ethnicity						
White	21.7	8.0	11.5	35.6	0.0	13.5
Black	11.2	2.5	4.2	27.4	0.0	6.1
Hispanic	15.2	2.2	7.3	28.4	0.0	7.6
Family income						
Low income	12.5	4.4	4.7	21.7	0.0	7.3
Middle income	15.5	4.8	7.6	29.7	0.0	10.3
High income	27.5	10.1	15.1	42.6	0.0	15.3
Grades 7-12						
Total	47.5	19.0	24.6	63.9	3.1	17.4
Race-ethnicity						
White	50.1	20.9	26.4	65.6	3.3	18.8
Black	31.7	7.1	12.8	50.7	1.1	9.2
Hispanic	37.6	9.0	16.6	53.0	2.1	11.6
Family income						
Low income	26.9	8.0	10.2	44.6	0.8	9.7
Middle income	41.4	15.1	19.2	60.7	3.1	16.4
High income	58.6	25.9	33.8	70.8	3.5	19.7

* Low income is the bottom 20 percent of all family incomes; high income is the top 20 percent of all family incomes; and middle income is the 60 percent in between. See the supplemental note to *Indicator 54* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, October Current Population Surveys.